General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 January 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 48 (*b*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.7 and Add.1)*]

60/9. Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/5 of 3 November 2003 and 59/10 of 27 October 2004, and its decision to proclaim 2005 the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, as a means to promote education, health, development and peace,

Recalling its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005, in which it underlined that sport could foster peace and development and could contribute to an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding,

Acknowledging the major role of the United Nations, its funds and programmes, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other specialized agencies, in promoting human development through sport and physical education, through its country programmes,

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child [1] and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children", [2] stressing that education shall be directed to the development of children's personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential,

Acknowledging with concern the dangers faced by sportsmen and sportswomen, in particular young athletes, including child labour, violence, doping, early specialization, over-training and exploitative forms of commercialization, as well as less visible threats and deprivations, such as the premature severance of family bonds and the loss of sporting, social and cultural ties,

Considering the contribution of sport and physical education towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[2] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[3] and the broader aims of development and peace,

Noting that sport and physical education is a lifelong activity and constitutes a major tool for health and physical development and for acquiring values necessary for social cohesion and intercultural dialogue,

Acknowledging that sport and physical education can present opportunities for solidarity and cooperation in order to promote tolerance, a culture of peace, social and gender equality, adequate responses to the special needs of persons with disabilities, dialogue and harmony,

Acknowledging also the contribution of the Olympic Games to understanding, peace and tolerance among and between peoples and civilizations,

Recognizing the need for greater coordination of efforts at the international level to facilitate a more effective fight against doping,

Noting the need for the development of a common framework within the United Nations to promote sport for education, health, development and peace,

Recognizing the need to maintain the momentum generated by the commemoration of the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, as a means to promote education, health, development and peace, through, inter alia, increased voluntary contributions and well-targeted communications-based activities,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Sport for peace and development: International Year of Sport and Physical Education",[4]

2. *Welcomes* the widespread commitment demonstrated by Member States, sport-related organizations and the private sector for the successful commemoration of the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, as a means to promote education, health, development and peace, through the organization of activities and events at national, regional and international levels, including:

(*a*) The holding of international conferences emphasizing the role of sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace;

(*b*) The setting up of a network of national focal points virtually in every region;

(*c*) The organization of youth leadership summits that highlight the use of sport an as entry point towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

(*d*) The strengthening of cooperation with the International Olympic Committee, sport-related associations and other partners;

(*e*) The appointment of sport celebrities as spokespersons for the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, as a means to promote education, health, development and peace;

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[3] See resolution 55/2.

[4] A/60/217.

3. *Notes* the elaboration of a business plan by the Working Group on Sport for Development and Peace of the United Nations Communications Group, as a common framework to foster coordination and cooperation for a more systematic and coherent use of sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace, and requests the Secretary-General to disseminate the business plan as widely as possible among Member States, the United Nations system and sport-related organizations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To elaborate an action plan that will expand and strengthen United Nations partnerships with Governments, sport-related organizations and the private sector, on the basis, inter alia, of an assessment of progress achieved, steps taken and difficulties encountered in realizing the potential of sport as a tool for development and peace;

(*b*) To strengthen advocacy and social mobilization, especially at the national, regional and international levels, through well-targeted communications-based activities, and stresses the contribution of the United Nations Sport Bulletin as well as websites in this regard;

5. *Invites* Member States to provide voluntary contributions to ensure adequate execution of and follow-up to the activities being implemented by the Office of Sport for Development and Peace;

6. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations system, international sports bodies and sport-related organizations to promote further sport and physical education, including assistance for the building and restoration of sports infrastructures, the implementation of partnership initiatives and development projects, as a contribution towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] and the broader aims of development and peace;

7. *Invites* Governments and international sports bodies to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in their capacity-building efforts in sport and physical education, by providing financial, technical and logistic resources for the development of sports programmes;

8. *Welcomes* the adoption of the International Convention against Doping in Sport by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-third session, and invites Member States to consider adhering to this Convention as early as possible;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution and on the events organized at the national, regional and international levels to celebrate the International Year in 2005, under the item entitled "Sport for peace and development".

43rd plenary meeting
3 November 2005

General Assembly

Distr.: General
6 January 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 43

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.4/Rev.1 and Add.1)]

60/10. Promotion of interreligious dialogue and cooperation for peace

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 56/6 of 9 November 2001, on the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations, 57/6 of 4 November 2002, concerning the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, 57/337 of 3 July 2003, on the prevention of armed conflict, 58/128 of 19 December 2003, on the promotion of religious and cultural understanding, harmony and cooperation, 59/199 of 20 December 2004, on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance, and 59/23 of 11 November 2004, on the promotion of interreligious dialogue,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome of 16 September 2005,[1] in which the Heads of State and Government reaffirmed the value of the dialogue on interfaith cooperation and committed themselves to taking action to promote a culture of peace and dialogue at the local, national, regional and international levels,

Affirming the need for all States to continue international efforts to enhance dialogue and broaden understanding among civilizations, in an effort to prevent the indiscriminate targeting of different religions and cultures,[2]

Underlining the importance of promoting understanding, tolerance and friendship among human beings in all their diversity of religion, belief, culture and language, and recalling that all States have pledged themselves under the Charter to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Taking note of several mutually inclusive and reinforcing initiatives on interreligious, intercultural and intercivilizational dialogues and cooperation for peace,[3] including the Regional Summit on Interreligious and Inter-ethnic Dialogue,

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[1] See resolution 60/1.

[2] As recognized also in Security Council resolution 1624 (2005).

[3] See A/60/201.

held in Tirana on 9 and 10 December 2004, the meeting on Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue for the South-East and Asia-Pacific Region, held in Melbourne, Australia, from 12 to 14 April 2005, the initiative of Pakistan on "enlightened moderation", endorsed by the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the International Conference on Environment, Peace and the Dialogue among Civilizations and Cultures, held in Tehran on 9 and 10 May 2005, the launch of the Alliance of Civilizations by the Secretary-General on 14 July 2005, the launch of the World Summit on Christian-Muslim Relations, to be held in Senegal in 2007, the Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, held triennially in Astana, the Asia-Europe Meeting Interfaith Dialogue on the theme "Building Interfaith Harmony within the International Community", held in Bali, Indonesia, on 21 and 22 July 2005,[4] the Conference on Interfaith Cooperation for Peace: Enhancing Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation Towards Peace in the Twenty-first Century, held at United Nations Headquarters on 22 June 2005,[5] and the Informal Meeting of Leaders on Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation for Peace, held at United Nations Headquarters on 13 September 2005,[6]

Recognizing the commitment of all religions to peace,

1. *Affirms* that mutual understanding and interreligious dialogue constitute important dimensions of the dialogue among civilizations and of the culture of peace;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on interreligious dialogue in the context of its efforts to promote dialogue among civilizations, cultures and peoples, as well as activities related to a culture of peace, welcomes its focus on concrete action at both the global and the regional and subregional levels and its new flagship activity on the promotion of interfaith dialogue, and encourages relevant bodies of the United Nations to work closely with the Organization and coordinate their efforts in this regard;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to bring the promotion of interreligious dialogue to the attention of all Governments, regional organizations and relevant international organizations, including ways to strengthen the linkages and focus more on practical actions in the implementation of the initiatives on interreligious dialogue and cooperation for peace;

4. *Also invites* the Secretary-General, in the context of his report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session under the item entitled "Culture of peace", to include information on the implementation of the present resolution.

43rd plenary meeting
3 November 2005

[4] See A/60/254.

[5] See A/60/269-E/2005/91, annex II, attachment.

[6] See A/60/383.

General Assembly

Distr.: General
6 January 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 43

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.10 and Add.1)]

60/11. Promotion of religious and cultural understanding, harmony and cooperation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] in particular the right to freedom of thought, of conscience and of religion,

Recalling the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations[2] and the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[3] as well as the principles contained therein,

Underlining the importance of promoting understanding, tolerance and friendship among human beings in all their diversity of religion, belief, culture and language, and recalling that all States have pledged themselves under the Charter to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Taking note of the adoption of the 2005 World Summit Outcome at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly,[4] which acknowledges the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world, and emphasizing the commitment contained therein to advance human welfare, freedom and progress everywhere, as well as to encourage tolerance, respect, dialogue and cooperation among different cultures, civilizations and peoples, in order to promote international peace and security,

Recalling its resolutions 59/23 of 11 November 2004 and 59/142 and 59/143 of 15 December 2004, and all other relevant resolutions,

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] Resolution 56/6.

[3] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 25, annex I.

[4] See resolution 60/1.

Recognizing that interreligious dialogue and understanding, including the awareness of differences and commonalities among peoples and civilizations, contribute to the peaceful resolution of conflicts and disputes and reduce the potential for animosity, clashes and even violence,

Taking note of the valuable contribution of various initiatives at the national, regional and international level, such as the Alliance of Civilizations initiative, the Bali Declaration on Building Interfaith Harmony within the International Community,[5] the Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, the Dialogue among Civilizations and Cultures, the strategy of "enlightened moderation", the Informal Meeting of Leaders on Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation for Peace[6] and the Islam-Christianity Dialogue, which are all mutually inclusive, reinforcing and interrelated,

Emphasizing the need, at all levels of society and among nations, for strengthening freedom, justice, democracy, tolerance, solidarity, cooperation, pluralism, respect for diversity of culture and religion or belief, dialogue and understanding, which are important elements for peace, and convinced that the guiding principles of democratic society need to be actively promoted by the international community,

Reaffirming that freedom of expression, media pluralism, multilingualism, equal access to art and to scientific and technological knowledge, including in digital form, and the possibility for all cultures to have access to the means of expression and dissemination are the guarantees of cultural diversity, and that in ensuring the free flow of ideas by word and image, care should be exercised that all cultures can express themselves and make themselves known,

Recognizing all efforts made by the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations to promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among human beings in all their diversity of culture, religion, belief and language,

Alarmed that serious instances of intolerance and discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief, including acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by religious intolerance, are on the increase in many parts of the world and threaten the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that tolerance for cultural, ethnic, and religious and linguistic diversities, as well as dialogue among and within civilizations, is essential for peace, understanding and friendship among individuals and people of different cultures and nations of the world, while manifestations of cultural prejudice, intolerance and xenophobia towards different cultures and religions generate hatred and violence among peoples and nations throughout the world,

Emphasizing that combating hatred, prejudice, intolerance and stereotyping on the basis of religion or culture represents a significant global challenge that requires further action,

1. *Takes note* of the report transmitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with resolutions 59/142 and 59/143;[7]

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[5] A/60/254, annex.

[6] See A/60/383.

[7] See A/60/279.

2. *Acknowledges* that respect for the diversity of religions and cultures, tolerance, dialogue and cooperation in a climate of mutual trust and understanding can contribute to the combating of ideologies and practices based on discrimination, intolerance and hatred and help to reinforce world peace, social justice and friendship among peoples;

3. *Reaffirms* the solemn commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, other instruments relating to human rights and international law; the universal nature of these rights and freedoms is beyond question;

4. *Also reaffirms* the importance for all peoples and nations to hold, develop and preserve their cultural heritage and traditions in a national and international atmosphere of peace, tolerance and m tual respect;

5. *Recognizes* that respect for religious and cultural diversity in an increasingly globalizing world contributes to international cooperation, promotes enhanced dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations and helps to create an environment conducive to the exchange of human experience;

6. *Also recognizes* that, despite intolerance and conflicts that are creating a divide across countries and regions and constitute a growing threat to peaceful relations among nations, all cultures and civilizations share a common set of universal values and can all contribute to the enrichment of humankind;

7. *Further recognizes* that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

8. *Reaffirms* that the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities contribute to political and social stability and peace and enrich the cultural diversity and heritage of society as a whole in the States in which such persons live, and urges States to ensure that their political and legal systems reflect the multicultural diversity within their societies and, where necessary, to improve democratic and political institutions, organizations and practices so that they are more fully participatory and avoid the marginalization and exclusion of, and discrimination against, specific sectors of society;

9. *Encourages* Governments to promote, including through education, as well as the development of progressive curriculums and text books, understanding, tolerance and friendship among human beings in all their diversity of religion, belief, culture and language, which will address the cultural, social, economic, political and religious sources of intolerance, and to apply a gender perspective while doing so, in order to promote understanding, tolerance, peace and friendly relations among nations and all racial and religious groups, recognizing that education at all levels is one of the principal means to build a culture of peace;

10. *Calls upon* all States to exert their utmost efforts to ensure that religious and cultural sites are fully respected and protected in compliance with their international obligations and in accordance with their national legislation, and to adopt adequate measures aimed at preventing acts or threats of damage to and destruction of these sites;

11. *Urges* States, in compliance with their international obligations, to take all necessary action to combat incitement to or acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by hatred and intolerance based on culture, religion or belief, which may cause discord and disharmony within and among societies;

12. *Also urges* States to take effective measures to prevent and eliminate discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief in the recognition, exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms in all fields of civil, economic, political, social and cultural life and to make all efforts to enact or rescind legislation, where necessary, to prohibit any such discrimination, and to take all appropriate measures to combat intolerance on the grounds of religion or beliefs;

13. *Further urges* States to ensure that, in the course of their official duties, members of law enforcement bodies and the military, civil servants, educators and other public officials respect different religions and beliefs and do not discriminate against persons professing other religions or beliefs, and that any necessary and appropriate education or training is provided;

14. *Welcomes* the efforts of States, relevant entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, civil society, including religion-based and other non-governmental organizations, and the media in developing a culture of peace, and encourages them to continue such efforts, including the promotion of interreligious and intercultural interaction within and among societies through, inter alia, congresses, conferences, seminars, workshops, research work and related processes;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the widest dissemination of the relevant United Nations material related to the present resolution in as many different languages as possible through the United Nations system, including the United Nations information centres, within available resources;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of his report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session under the item entitled "Culture of peace", to include information on the implementation of the present resolution.

43rd plenary meeting
3 November 2005

General Assembly

Distr.: General
6 January 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 18

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.9)*]

60/12. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

The General Assembly,

Determined to encourage strict compliance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in their internal affairs and freedom of international trade and navigation, which are also enshrined in many international legal instruments,

Recalling the statements of the Heads of State or Government at the Ibero-American Summits concerning the need to eliminate the unilateral application of economic and trade measures by one State against another that affect the free flow of international trade,

Concerned at the continued promulgation and application by Member States of laws and regulations, such as that promulgated on 12 March 1996 known as the "Helms-Burton Act", the extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the freedom of trade and navigation,

Taking note of declarations and resolutions of different intergovernmental forums, bodies and Governments that express the rejection by the international community and public opinion of the promulgation and application of regulations of the kind referred to above,

Recalling its resolutions 47/19 of 24 November 1992, 48/16 of 3 November 1993, 49/9 of 26 October 1994, 50/10 of 2 November 1995, 51/17 of 12 November 1996, 52/10 of 5 November 1997, 53/4 of 14 November 1998, 54/21 of 9 November 1999, 55/20 of 9 November 2000, 56/9 of 27 November 2001, 57/11 of 12 November 2002, 58/7 of 4 November 2003 and 59/11 of 28 October 2004,

Concerned that, since the adoption of its resolutions 47/19, 48/16, 49/9, 50/10, 51/17, 52/10, 53/4, 54/21, 55/20, 56/9, 57/11, 58/7 and 59/11, further measures of that nature aimed at strengthening and extending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba continue to be promulgated and applied, and

concerned also at the adverse effects of such measures on the Cuban people and on Cuban nationals living in other countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 59/11;[1]

2. *Reiterates its call upon* all States to refrain from promulgating and applying laws and measures of the kind referred to in the preamble to the present resolution in conformity with their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which, inter alia, reaffirm the freedom of trade and navigation;

3. *Once again urges* States that have and continue to apply such laws and measures to take the necessary steps to repeal or invalidate them as soon as possible in accordance with their legal regime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate organs and agencies of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution in the light of the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law and to submit it to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

45th plenary meeting
8 November 2005

[1] A/60/213.

United Nations A/RES/60/13

General Assembly

Distr.: General
2 February 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 73

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.18 and Add.1)*]

60/13. Strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and prevention in the aftermath of the South Asian earthquake disaster - Pakistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 57/152 of 16 December 2002, 57/256 of 20 December 2002, 58/25 of 5 December 2003, 58/214 and 58/215 of 23 December 2003, 59/212 of 20 December 2004, 59/231 and 59/233 of 22 December 2004 and 59/279 of 19 January 2005,

Expressing sincere condolences and deep sympathy to the victims, their families and the people of Pakistan, India, Afghanistan and other affected areas, who suffered huge losses of life and socio-economic and environmental damage from the massive earthquake that struck the South Asian region on 8 October 2005,

Deeply alarmed over the critical condition of millions of homeless and countless injured awaiting immediate response in desperation and pain, which is accentuated by extreme weather and difficult terrain,

Welcoming the assistance and contributions of the international community, including Governments, international organizations, civil society and the private sector, in the relief and rehabilitation efforts, which reflect the spirit of international solidarity and cooperation to address and meet the challenges of the disaster, and in this context also appreciating the role of the people and Government of Pakistan,

Welcoming also the launching of the South Asia earthquake 2005 flash appeal by the United Nations on 11 October 2005 and the continuous engagement by the Secretary-General to escalate the global relief efforts for the urgent and immediate needs of the affected people,

Welcoming further the convening by the United Nations of a high-level ministerial donors meeting in Geneva on 26 October 2005 to generate further relief assistance and support for recovery from the disaster,

Stressing the need to incorporate risk reduction approaches into development policies and recovery programmes, as set out in the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015,[1]

Recalling the need for continued commitment to assist the affected countries and their peoples, particularly the most vulnerable groups, to fully recover from the catastrophic and traumatic effects of the disaster, including in their medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, and welcoming measures announced by the Government of Pakistan and by the international agencies in this regard,

Emphasizing the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of the affected States in dealing with natural disasters and hazards in all phases, including prevention, preparedness, mitigation, recovery and reconstruction, as well as in strengthening the response capacity of affected countries,

1. *Expresses its sympathy* to the people affected by the earthquake in South Asia;

2. *Emphasizes* the need to give particular attention to helping the affected population, especially orphans and widows, in their physical and psychological trauma and to provide immediate medical assistance, in particular with regard to the vaccination of children and to long-term rehabilitation;

3. *Also emphasizes* the need for the international community to maintain its focus beyond the present emergency relief, in order to sustain the political will to support the medium- and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk reduction efforts led by the Government of Pakistan and other affected States at all levels;

4. *Welcomes* the effective cooperation between the authorities of Pakistan and the relevant bodies in the United Nations system, donor countries, regional and international financial institutions, relevant international organizations and civil society in the coordination and delivery of emergency relief, and stresses the need to continue such cooperation and delivery throughout the ongoing relief operations and rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, in a manner that reduces vulnerability to future natural hazards;

5. *Encourages* the international community, particularly donor countries, international financial institutions and relevant international organizations, as well as the private sector and civil society, to deliver swiftly on their pledges and to continue to provide the necessary funds and assistance to support the rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint a special envoy in order to, inter alia, sustain the political will of the international community to support medium- and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk reduction efforts;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore ways to further strengthen the rapid response capacities for immediate humanitarian relief efforts of the international community, building on the existing arrangements and ongoing initiatives;

8. *Invites* the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, in collaboration with donor countries, other international and regional financial

[1] Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2).

institutions and the United Nations, to mobilize members of the international community, including affected countries, to address the medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction needs of the affected areas;

9. *Welcomes* the proposed convening of a reconstruction conference to generate assistance and commitments for long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction phases in the disaster-stricken areas, to be held in Islamabad on 19 November 2005;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session in 2006.

52nd plenary meeting
14 November 2005

General Assembly

Distr.: General
2 February 2006

Sixtieth session
Agenda item 73 (*c*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.19 and Add.1)*]

60/14. Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/190 of 21 December 1990, 46/150 of 18 December 1991, 47/165 of 18 December 1992, 48/206 of 21 December 1993, 50/134 of 20 December 1995, 52/172 of 16 December 1997, 54/97 of 8 December 1999, 56/109 of 14 December 2001 and 58/119 of 17 December 2003, as well as its resolution 55/171 of 14 December 2000 on closure of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, and taking note of the decisions adopted by the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system in the implementation of those resolutions,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1990/50 of 13 July 1990, 1991/51 of 26 July 1991 and 1992/38 of 30 July 1992 and Council decision 1993/232 of 22 July 1993,

Conscious of the long-term nature of the consequences of the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, which was a major technological catastrophe in terms of its scope and complexity and created humanitarian, environmental, social, economic and health consequences and problems of common concern, requiring for their solution wide and active international cooperation and coordination of efforts in this field at the international and national levels,

Expressing profound concern at the ongoing effects of the consequences of the accident on the lives and health of people, in particular children, in the affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, as well as in other affected countries,

Noting the consensus reached among members of the Chernobyl Forum[1] on the findings of the reports entitled "Environmental Consequences of the Chernobyl

[1] The members of the Chernobyl Forum are drawn from the following organizations and bodies within the United Nations system: International Atomic Energy Agency, United Nations Development Programme, World Health Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Environment Programme, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and World Bank, as well as representatives of the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

Accident and their Remediation: Twenty Years of Experience" and "Health Effects of the Chernobyl Accident and Special Health Care Programmes", and recognizing the important contribution made by the Forum to the overall assessment of the environmental, health and socio-economic effects of the Chernobyl disaster,

Acknowledging the importance of the national efforts being undertaken by the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

Recognizing the contribution of civil society organizations, including the national Red Cross Societies of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, in response to the Chernobyl disaster and in support of the efforts of the affected countries,

Emphasizing the importance of the new developmental approach to tackling the problems caused by the Chernobyl accident aimed at normalizing the situation of the individuals and communities concerned in the medium and long term,[2]

Stressing the exceptional Chernobyl-related needs, in particular in the areas of health, ecology and research, in the context of the transition from the emergency to the recovery phase of mitigation of the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

Noting the transfer of the functions of the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl from the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and Chairperson of the United Nations Development Group,

Stressing the need for further coordination by the United Nations Development Programme and improved resource mobilization by the United Nations system to support the activities of the International Chernobyl Research and Information Network as well as the efforts to disseminate the findings of the Chernobyl Forum,

Noting the completion of information needs assessments of the affected populations in Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine under the aegis of the International Chernobyl Research and Information Network,

Stressing the significance of the upcoming twentieth anniversary of the accident for the further strengthening of international cooperation to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of resolution 58/119,[3] as well as relevant parts of the reports of the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system,

1. *Welcomes* the contribution made by States and by organizations of the United Nations system to the development of cooperation to mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, the activities of regional and other organizations and those of non-governmental organizations, as well as bilateral activities;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts undertaken by the agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations members of the Inter-

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[2] See the United Nations report entitled "The Human Consequences of the Chernobyl Nuclear Accident: A Strategy for Recovery".

[3] A/60/443

Agency Task Force on Chernobyl to implement a new developmental approach to studying, mitigating and minimizing the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, in particular through the development of specific projects, and stresses the need for the Inter-Agency Task Force to continue its activities to that end, including through coordinating efforts in the field of resource mobilization;

3. *Acknowledges* the difficulties faced by the most affected countries in minimizing the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and invites States, in particular donor States and all relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, as well as non-governmental organizations, to continue to provide support to the ongoing efforts of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, including through the allocation of adequate funds to support medical, social, economic and ecological programmes related to the disaster;

4. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations should continue to play an important catalytic and coordinating role in the strengthening of international cooperation to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl, in his capacity as Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and as Chairperson of the United Nations Development Group, to take further appropriate practical measures to strengthen coordination of the international efforts in that area;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* the realization of the Cooperation for Rehabilitation Programme in Belarus and the Chernobyl Recovery and Development Programme in Ukraine, aimed at promoting better living conditions in and the sustainable development of the affected territories;

7. *Also notes with satisfaction* assistance rendered by the International Atomic Energy Agency to Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine on remediation of agricultural and urban environments, cost-effective agricultural countermeasures and the monitoring of human exposure in areas affected by the Chernobyl disaster;

8. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the progress made by the Governments of the affected countries in implementing national strategies to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl accident, and calls upon United Nations agencies and multilateral and bilateral donors to continue to align their assistance with the priorities of the national strategies of the affected States, and stresses the importance of working together on their implementation in a common effort in the spirit of cooperation;

9. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Ukraine and the international donor community to bring to completion the building of the shelter[4] as well as those efforts to provide for the environmentally sound collection and storage of nuclear waste, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

10. *Notes* the necessity of further measures to ensure the integration of the assessment by the Chernobyl Forum of the environmental, health and socio-economic consequences of the Chernobyl nuclear accident into the International Chernobyl Research and Information Network process through dissemination of the

[4] Ibid., paras. 49 and 50.

findings of the Forum, including in the form of practical messages on healthy and productive lifestyles, to the populations affected by the accident in order to empower them to maximize social and economic recovery and sustainable development in all its aspects;

11. *Recognizes* the role that the Commonwealth of Independent States plays in the process of preparing events in observance of the twentieth anniversary of the Chernobyl accident to be held in States participating in the Commonwealth;

12. *Welcomes*, in this context, the activities in observance of the International Day Commemorating Victims of Radiation Accidents and Catastrophes, 26 April, undertaken by the States participating in the Commonwealth of Independent States;

13. *Invites* Member States to observe this Day and to conduct appropriate activities to commemorate victims of radiation accidents and catastrophes and to enhance public awareness of their consequences for human health and the environment throughout the world;

14. *Welcomes* the initiatives of the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to host international events on lessons learned and on future actions in response to the Chernobyl disaster to observe the twentieth anniversary of the Chernobyl accident, and invites organizations of the United Nations system, donor countries and other development agencies to contribute to their effective realization;

15. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene, in April 2006, a special commemorative meeting of the Assembly in observance of the twentieth anniversary of the Chernobyl catastrophe;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in the implementation of the relevant General Assembly resolutions and, through existing coordination mechanisms, in particular the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl, to continue to maintain close cooperation with the agencies of the United Nations system, as well as with regional and other relevant organizations, while implementing specific Chernobyl-related programmes and projects;

17. *Requests* the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl to organize, in collaboration with the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, a further study of the health, environmental and socio-economic consequences of the Chernobyl accident, consistent with the recommendations of the Chernobyl Forum;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session, under a separate sub-item, a report containing a comprehensive assessment of the implementation of all aspects of the present resolution.

52nd plenary meeting
14 November 2005

United Nations A/RES/60/15

General Assembly

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Sixtieth session
Agenda item 73

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.20 and Add.1)*]

60/15. Strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and prevention in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 57/152 of 16 December 2002, 57/256 of 20 December 2002, 58/25 of 5 December 2003, 58/214 and 58/215 of 23 December 2003, 59/212 of 20 December 2004, 59/231 and 59/233 of 22 December 2004 and 59/279 of 19 January 2005,

Commending the prompt response, continued support, generous assistance and contributions of the international community, by Governments, civil society, the private sector and individuals, in the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, which reflect the spirit of international solidarity and cooperation to address the disaster,

Noting the Declaration on Action to Strengthen Emergency Relief, Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Prevention in the Aftermath of the Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster of 26 December 2004, adopted at the special meeting of leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, held in Jakarta on 6 January 2005,[1]

Recalling the Hyogo Declaration[2] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015,[3] as well as the common statement of the special session on the Indian Ocean disaster,[4] adopted at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005,

Noting the communiqué relating to support for tsunami and multihazard warning systems within the context of the Global Earth Observation System of

[1] A/59/669, annex.

[2] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

[3] Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2).

[4] Common statement of the special session on the Indian Ocean disaster: risk reduction for a safer future (A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, annex II).

Systems, adopted at the third Earth Observation Summit, in Brussels, on 16 February 2005,

Taking note of the joint Asian-African leaders' statement on tsunami, earthquake and other natural disasters, adopted at the Asian-African Summit 2005, held in Jakarta on 22 and 23 April 2005,[5]

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction, recovery and prevention in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster,[6]

Welcoming the appointment of Mr. William Jefferson Clinton, former President of the United States of America, as the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery and the establishment of the Global Consortium for Tsunami-Affected Countries to sustain the political will of the international community to support medium- and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk reduction efforts led by the Governments of affected countries,

Taking note with appreciation of the convening of the Global Consortium for Tsunami-Affected Countries in June and September 2005, aimed at improving coordination among relevant stakeholders and developing a common online tracking system and common indicators to monitor and evaluate the impact of tsunami relief and rehabilitation programmes, which emphasizes the need to promote national ownership of the tracking processes in tsunami-affected countries,

Welcoming ongoing efforts by the international system to capture, consolidate and disseminate lessons learned from the tsunami response and recovery to guide future disaster management at all levels,

Welcoming also the establishment of the Multi-Donor Voluntary Trust Fund on Tsunami Early Warning Arrangements in the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia, which will contribute to setting up an early warning system and to building up the capacity of the region in dealing with natural disasters,

Welcoming further the proposed convening of a Third International Conference on Early Warning, in Bonn, Germany, from 27 to 29 March 2006, covering the complete range of natural hazards, with a focus on the urgent implementation of early warning systems for hydrometeorological and geological hazards on a global scale,

Stressing the need to develop and implement risk reduction strategies and to integrate them, where appropriate, into national development plans, in particular through the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, so as to enhance the resilience of populations in disasters and reduce risks to them, their livelihoods, the social and economic infrastructure and environmental resources,

Emphasizing that disaster reduction, including reducing vulnerability to natural disasters, is an important element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,

Stressing the need for continued commitment to assist the affected countries and their peoples, particularly the most vulnerable groups, to fully recover from the

[5] See A/59/841, annex.

[6] A/60/86-E/2005/77.

catastrophic and traumatic effects of the disaster, including in their medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, and welcoming Government and international assistance measures in this regard,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts by the Governments of affected countries to complete the emergency relief phase and move forward to the rehabilitation and reconstruction phase, as well as in enhancing financial transparency and accountability with respect to the channelling and utilization of resources, including, as appropriate, through the involvement of international public auditors;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of Mr. William Jefferson Clinton, former President of the United States of America, the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery, and his various initiatives, and encourages his efforts to continue sustaining the political will of the international community, particularly regional and international financial institutions, civil society and the private sector, to support medium- and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk reduction efforts led by the Governments of affected countries;

3. *Encourages* donor countries and international and regional financial institutions, as well as the private sector and civil society, to strengthen partnerships and to continue supporting the medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction needs of the affected countries, including through the swift delivery of pledges made by donors;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to promote transparency and accountability among donors and recipient countries by means of, inter alia, a unified financial and sectoral information online tracking system – a development assistance database – with the support and participation of the Global Consortium for Tsunami-Affected Countries, and highlights the importance of timely and accurate information on assessed needs and the sources and uses of funds;

5. *Encourages* the continued effective coordination among the Governments of affected countries, relevant bodies of the United Nations system, international organizations, donor countries, regional and international financial institutions, civil society and private sectors involved in relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, in order to ensure adequate response to the remaining humanitarian needs and effective implementation of existing joint programmes and to prevent unnecessary duplication, as well as to reduce vulnerability to future natural hazards;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen the United Nations institutional mechanism and capacities in support of national and local authorities for the coordination of tsunami disaster recovery efforts;

7. *Reaffirms* that all regional efforts should serve the purpose of strengthening international cooperation aimed at the creation of a global multihazard early warning system, including the newly established Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System;

8. *Stresses* the need for the development of stronger institutions, mechanisms and capacities at the regional, national and local levels, as affirmed in the Hyogo Declaration[2] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015,[3] as well as through the promotion of public education, awareness and community participation, in order to systematically build resilience to hazards and disasters, as well as reduce the risks and the vulnerability of populations to disasters, particularly in developing countries;

9. *Urges* Governments and the United Nations system, in planning for disaster preparedness and responding to natural disasters, and implementing recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, to integrate a gender perspective and to ensure that women take an active and equal role in all phases of disaster management;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore ways to strengthen the rapid response capacities of the international community to provide immediate humanitarian relief, building on existing arrangements and ongoing initiatives;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session in 2006.

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/60/L.17 and Add.1)*]

60/16. Eight hundred years of Mongolian statehood

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/6 of 9 November 2001 on the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations,

Reaffirming that civilizational achievements constitute the collective heritage of mankind, providing a source of inspiration and progress for humanity at large,

Emphasizing the need to achieve an objective understanding of all civilizations and enhance constructive interaction and cooperative engagement among civilizations,

Recognizing the richness of nomadic civilization and its important contribution to promoting dialogue and interaction among all forms of civilization,

Recognizing also that nomadic civilization influenced, inter alia, societies across Asia and Europe and, in turn, absorbed influences from both East and West in a true interchange of human values,

Recognizing further the important role played by a strong and persistent nomadic culture in the development of extensive trade networks and the creation of large administrative, cultural, religious and commercial centres,

Mindful of the ever-increasing significance and relevance of a culture of living in harmony with nature, which is inherent in nomadic civilization, in today's world,

1. *Welcomes* the efforts of Member States, including Mongolia, to preserve and develop nomadic culture and traditions in modern societies;

2. *Also welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Government of Mongolia to celebrate the eight hundredth anniversary of Mongolian statehood in 2006;

3. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, regional organizations and foundations, and academia, to take part actively in the events to be organized by Mongolia in celebration of this anniversary.

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